

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present case in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants note that their representative contacted the Examiner via telephone on March 22, 2004. The amendment of claim 15 to include the features of claim 36 was discussed. The Examiner provisionally indicated that such an amendment would be favorable.

Claim 15 has been amended. Claim 36 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 15, 17-24, and 26-35 are currently pending. No new matter has been inserted. Support for the amendment of claim 15 can be found in claim 36 and at page 4, line 6.

Claims 15, 17-24, and 26-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for written description. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Specifically, the Examiner alleged that the limitation “does not comprise tantalum” is new matter. While not conceding the correctness of the Examiner’s position, in the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have eliminated the term “does not comprise tantalum.” Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants note that claim 15 now includes the feature of “wherein the metal oxide adhesive film comprises at least one metal selected from Cr, NiCr, Ti, Co, Ge, Cu, Sn, Mo and W.” Applicants assert that this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by those references previously cited by the Examiner including Kola et al. (USPN 6,005,197), Ishihara et al. (USPN 5,032,694), and Lebow et al. (USPN 4,159,222).

In light of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicants assert the claims are in condition for allowance. Removal of all rejections and early notice of allowable claims is requested.

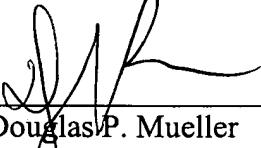
The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney for clarification of any of these remarks or amendments, or to otherwise speed prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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